

1986 Scrapbook Summary

System News:

Statistics show that Hennepin County libraries are some of the most frequently used in the country. Last year a survey showed that 89% of county library users have a library card, or nearly 60% of the overall county population. support for libraries threatened by county budget slashing was so strong that the libraries were saved. (South Shore Weekly 4/3/86)

Two years ago the county library appointed a task force to deal with children in-groups as a rapidly growing phenomenon in need of expanded public service. The task force recommended that libraries regularly inform child care providers of services available through personal visits and workshops...(Star Trib 4/7/86)

Storytellers were a means of attracting children in groups. Carol McCormick, Carolyn Lucas, Mattie Clark and Terry Schupbach were among the storytellers featured during 1986. Groups such as the Storytelling Network, Story front and the Northlands Group provided support and publicity for storytellers in the metro area. (St. Paul Pioneer Press and Dispatch n.d.)

The Hennepin County Library system raised fines for adults with overdue materials to help pay for keeping the Long Lake and Medina libraries open. Fines increased from 15 to 20 cents a day starting April 1. Maximum fine increased from \$4.50 to \$6.00 for catalogued materials. Fines for juvenile materials stayed the same. (Mpls Star 3/12/86)

Individual Library News:

Bookmobile:

The library on wheels was among the few in the nation which are totally automated: it is online with the library's computerized circulation and reference systems. The bookmobile is responsible for 4500 items a month in circulation. Its volume is greater than four of the community libraries in the system. The bookmobile served Bloomington, Rockford, Corcoran, Loretto, Maple Grove, several senior centers and a children's day care center. (Newlines 4/4/86)

Brooklyn Park:

Three new wall hangings spruced up the children's area in the Brooklyn Park Library, compliments of the Brooklyn Park Women of Today. (BP Post 10/2/86)

Edina:

Helen McNulty became Edina's new librarian in August. (Sailor 9/1/86)

Eden Prairie:

Librarian Marge McPeak introduced library staff during the dedication ceremonies for the new Eden Prairie Center Community Library. The event was attended by the public as well as city and county officials. (EP News 10/1/86) With the new building the library's circulation has more than doubled. The new library had nearly 47,000 volumes compared to the old library with 12,000 volumes. (no source given)

Long Lake:

At the first warning that Long Lake Library was to be closed in the cause of economy, historian Avery Stubbs of the Western Hennepin Pioneers Museum of Long Lake, whipped out a letter to his constituents. He traced the Long Lake Library back 120 years. Stubbs added to the already powerful community protests which provided the support Commissioner E.F. "Bud" Robb needed to reconsider their previous order and keep the libraries open. (Wayzata/Plymouth Sailor 1/20/86)

Friends of the Long Lake Library helped in packing for the move to their new location in the Orono Shopping Center. The friends are sponsoring an open house during the week of April 7 to invite patrons to enjoy refreshments while they get acquainted with the library's new home. (Pioneer Newspaper 3/25/86)

Maple Grove:

Local officials and interested bystanders gathered at the intersection of 83rd Way and Elm Creek Boulevard for ceremonies breaking ground for a new Hennepin County Library, scheduled to open in September, 1987. The cost of the project will be \$1,620,337. The 10,222 sq. ft. building will have the potential for expansion. (BP Post 8-21-86)

Rockford Road:

A unique computer program designed to stimulate community discussion about national security policies debuted at the Rockford Road Library in August of 1986. Members of the West Suburban PeaceMakers were at the library from 7-9 each Monday and Tuesday night in August to assist library patrons interested in participating in the computer dialog. The peace group's completion of the computer dialog software coincided with the Rockford Road Library's acquisition of its first computer, funded by a Friends of the Library book sale and through contributions to a memorial for Marie Thorne. (BP Post 8/14/86)

St. Anthony:

The Friends of St. Anthony Library lured kids to the library with 70-100 new puppets purchased by the Friends. The money (usually between \$1600 and \$1800 a year) comes largely from book sales. Thus the future of the St. Anthony Community Library is ensured, at least in part, by its magic hours, storytellers and puppets.

Paula Fox, the new St. Anthony librarian traded "life in the fast lane" (Ridgedale) for a small community library experience. she said it gave her the opportunity to become acquainted with regular users as well as more familiar with their individual reading needs and interests.

St. Louis Park:

The St. Louis Park Sailor (11/24/86) featured an article on Pamela Holt as storyteller. Pamela tells children that when the family gathers and tells the same stories they heard the last time they were together, they are creating the family's oral tradition.